

OCTOBER MONTH WHEAT FORECAST, 1926-27.

TOTAL 37,100,000 BUSHELS, AVERAGING 14.00 BUSHELS PER ACRE.

Area. The estimated area under crop is based mainly upon direct returns received from farmers and should be reasonably accurate.

2,965,000 (2,735,000) acres were sown with wheat, increase 230,000 acres. For grain 2,650,000 (2,466,000) acres, increase 184,000 acres, the balance, 315,000 acres, for hay. The grain area is still considerably less than the maximum year 1916-17 - 2,778,357 acres.

Yield. General Reports covering practically all the wheat areas of the State were obtained from local Police Officers, who informed themselves by personal observations and enquiry as to the seasonal conditions and the prospects based upon the outlook for October month. These reports, aided by office records of district rainfall and wheat averages of previous years, provided the material for the estimate. With very few exceptions, the general outlook was reported to be most satisfactory in all the Divisions of the State.

On the basis of the October outlook, the probable yield is estimated to be 37,100,000 Bushels averaging 14.00 Bushels per acre. It should be noted that if the remainder of the season continues ideal, this estimate may be exceeded. On the other hand, should November weather conditions become unfavorable, it may be reduced. In any circumstances, however, a bountiful harvest is practically assured.

AREA SOWN FOR GRAIN.

DIVISION	Estimated	Actual	Mean 5 years to 1925-26	Max. Year 1916-17
	1926-27	1925-26	Acres	Acres
I. Central	473,000	463,709	480,731	605,564
II. Lower North	735,000	721,036	724,807	773,634
III. Upper North	211,000	199,418	216,800	320,904
IV. South Eastern	31,000	26,675	33,771	75,356
V. Western	615,000	543,340	500,291	482,271
VI. Murray Mallee	585,000	511,470	487,802	520,628
Total State	2,650,000	2,465,648	2,444,202	2,778,357

PRODUCTION.

	Bush.	Bush.	Bush.	Bush.
I. Central	7,452,000	6,477,657	6,868,492	10,824,208
II. Lower North	13,050,000	11,286,969	11,566,506	15,568,084
III. Upper North	2,745,000	1,920,526	2,543,182	5,919,094
IV. South Eastern	496,000	429,692	474,246	1,009,002
V. Western	6,920,000	4,358,744	3,769,408	6,220,015
VI. Murray Mallee	6,437,000	4,129,513	4,261,161	6,204,661
Total State	37,100,000	28,603,101	29,482,995	45,745,064

AVERAGE YIELDS PER ACRE.

	Bush.	Bush.	Bush.	Bush.
I. Central	15.75	13.97	14.29	17.87
II. Lower North	17.75	15.65	15.96	20.12
III. Upper North	13.00	9.63	11.73	18.45
IV. South Eastern	16.00	16.11	14.04	13.39
V. Western	11.25	8.02	7.53	12.90
VI. Murray Mallee	11.00	8.07	8.74	11.92
Total State	14.00	11.60	12.06	16.46